

REMARKS

Applicants have herein canceled claims 1-14 and 16-20, without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter encompassed by all canceled claims in one or more divisional or continuation applications. Applicants have herein amended claim 15 to be an independent claim and have added claims 21-43 to further characterize the elected subject matter.

Support for the amendments to the claims can be found in the specification at, for example, page 2, paragraph [0014]; page 3, paragraphs [0018], [0021], and [0022]; page 4, paragraph [0023]; page 8, paragraph [0045]; page 13, paragraph [0070]; page 14, paragraphs [0075] and [0077]; page 21, paragraph [0112]; page 22, paragraphs [0113] and [0114]. Thus, no new matter has been added.

Upon entry of the present amendments, claims 15 and 21-43 will be pending.

Provisional Election With Traverse

A restriction requirement has been issued in which claims 1-20 were separated into six different groups. *See*, Paper No. 20060613, page 2.

To comply with the pending election requirement, Applicants herein provisionally elect, *with traverse*, claims embodying the subject matter currently restricted to Group III (*i.e.*, drawn to antibodies).

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement. A restriction requirement should not be imposed unless a search and examination of all groups would entail a "serious burden." *See* M.P.E.P. § 803. In the present situation, a search of antibody claims would provide useful information for the claims in other related groups. For example, a search for would inherently provide relevant information about polypeptides and polynucleotides, and diagnostic methods using such compounds, and assays for identifying agonists or antagonists. Therefore, since a search of the claims of Group III would overlap with a search of Groups I, II and IV-VI, a search of claims drawn to the claimed embodiments of should not impose an undue burden. However, in the interest of advancing prosecution on the merits, Applicants have canceled the claims to the non-elected subject matter.

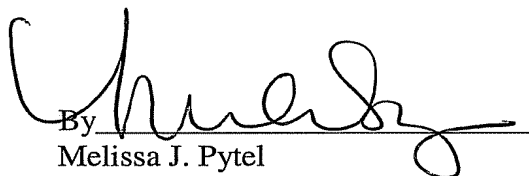
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the above-made remarks be entered and made of record in the file history of the instant application. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below if any further action by Applicant would expedite the examination of this application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 08-3425. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Dated: July 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


By _____

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